

**REMARKS**

Reconsideration and allowance of this subject application are respectfully requested.


Applicant notes with appreciation the Examiner's allowance of claims 1-21 and claims 23 and 24, as well as the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 26-33.

Claims 25 and 35 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,694,419 to Lawrence. Claim 36 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over Lawrence in view U.S. Patent 6,005,893 to Hyll. These rejections are believed to be moot because claim 25 now incorporates the subject matter of allowable claim 26.

The application is therefore in condition for allowance. An early notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

**NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.**

By:   
John R. Lastova  
Reg. No. 33,149

JRL:at  
1100 North Glebe Road, 8th Floor  
Arlington, VA 22201-4714  
Telephone: (703) 816-4000  
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100